

BLOOMFIELD FILE  
BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

COPY 2

# PROGRESS IN TIMES OF TROUBLE



*Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools  
Bloomfield, New Jersey*

1968 - 1969



## MEMBERS OF THE BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Mr. Harold Brotherhood, President  
Mr. Edward C. Rasp, Jr., Vice President  
Mr. Vincent J. Biunno  
Mrs. Frank M. Galioto  
Mr. Bernard Spitz

Dear Mrs. Galioto and Gentlemen:

The past academic year was perhaps the most crucial in the history of modern American education. We witnessed riots, demonstrations, sit-ins, speak outs, and a parade of explosive incidents in the press and on the airwaves. College campus difficulties were matched by crises at various secondary schools.

For students in all schools, these incidents provided much to reflect upon, and a challenge to self control and reasonable behavior. For administration and faculty, they presented a challenge to review curriculum, administrative procedures, and above all to improve communications between the students and the school staff, and between the school and the community. We believe much good can result from such an exchange.

Bloomfield has good reason to be proud of the mature, intelligent way in which students, teachers, and parents responded to the pressure of outside events. We trust that the coming year will be productive of even greater understanding and progress.

Sincerely,  
Frank B. Stover  
Superintendent of Schools

Bloomfield, New Jersey  
July, 1969

### BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS 1968 - 1969

Total Average Enrollment .....	8,185
School Buildings Operated .....	17
Supervisors and Principals .....	21
Teachers .....	421
Other Employees (full and part-time) .....	195
Day School Cost Per Pupil in Total Average Enrollment .....	\$748.17
Day School Expenditures (without new buildings, etc.) .....	\$6,123,770.68

## SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The Student Government Association, in the spirit described above, has been having discussions concerning many matters related to student conduct and welfare. Greater representation is planned on faculty-student committees. Guidelines for dress have been discussed.

As enrollment has continued to increase sharply, the problems of over-crowding and inadequate facilities have multiplied. We cannot accommodate all students electing shop, home economics, arts and crafts, nor provide opportunities for new elective courses in academic fields. The library shelving and seating space is below minimum standards. Faculty work space is too sparse, and innovations are limited by the physical plant.

The board and administration have worked with the architect on plans for addition and rehabilitation. Because first estimates were far too costly, revised plans are being formulated, with consultant help.

As part of future development, two properties on State Street, opposite the senior high school, were acquired by the town at the request of the board. The present dwellings will be demolished, and the land will be redeveloped as an outdoor physical education facility. The present small outdoor facility will disappear when additions are made.

Foley Field South (now called Memorial Park) has not progressed as expected, so that the Senior High School outdoor athletic facilities continue to be inadequate. In spite of this, all eleven varsity sports have had winning seasons for two years. However, we understand that work on the Memorial Park will begin near the end of this summer. We look forward to the new facility.

From kindergarten through grade twelve, teachers have been focusing their attention on reading improvement. For example, the business education department had an analysis made of its curricular materials from the viewpoint of reading difficulty, and began programs to help students in this area. Increasing use of A.V. materials such as EPL "Skill Builder" in typewriting have helped many students, as well as increased use of library materials. The New Jersey and Federal Civil Service exams have now been incorporated into the classroom testing program. Field trips to data processing concerns are examples of efforts made to acquaint students with post high school employment opportunities.

Bloomfield students won seven prizes in the State DECA contests for distributive education clubs. These students also conducted a fund drive to purchase toys and hold a Christmas party for the children in the county shelter at Soho.





NEW JERSEY STATE CHAMPIONS CROSS COUNTRY 1968

The physical education program at the high school is varied and has a wide range of sports and physical education activities. It is interesting to note that six hundred boys and girls, nearly a third of the student body, participate in some intramural program offered before and after school. Additional pupils do not participate in these because they are engaged in varsity sports.

Audio Visual materials and equipment are also widely used in the English Department in the form of overhead and opaque projectors, controlled readers, IBM magnetic belt machine, and audio-visual replay. The department has over 15,000 volumes in texts, and in addition, many disposable booklets and magazines are used.

There has been an increase in the number of English classes taken to the library for instruction. There is also an experimental course in Business English which has proved successful in its second year.

The English Department Chairman served as editor of the yearbook published by the New Jersey Association of Department Heads.

For the first time, the Chairman of the Foreign Language Department is also the Town-wide Coordinator of Foreign Languages. This will provide better articulation and coordination of programs in the three secondary schools.

Three student groups participated in students abroad programs. One group, the Latin, under the sponsorship of the N. J. Jr. Classical League, visited Rome and environs during the spring recess; a second group studied at the University of Salamanca, Spain; a third studied at the University of Salzburg, Austria. The latter two programs were six week summer programs. The benefits and rewards to the students engaged in these programs were countless, and it is to be hoped that future years will see more students taking advantage of these opportunities.

For the first time, computer scheduling was put into effect. For the school as a whole, it offered improvement over past methods, but placed a greater load on the guidance department.

College sending continues to increase, with an increased interest also in other forms of post-high school education. Not only did counselors hold 150 meetings with representatives of colleges and industry, but also visited 75 colleges and 10 industries. Nearly 60 Bloomfield graduates were enrolled this last year in the new Essex County College.

Our first courses in Vocational Home Economics were introduced this year. In recent times, our vocationally oriented programs have been extended to include Distributive Education,



Cooperative Trade and Industrial Education, Cooperative Secretarial Education, Work-Study Program for Educable Mentally Retarded, and Business Occupations.

The Advanced Placement Program in U. S. History will be discontinued next year. During the past four years, little or no reference was made in the examinations given to such groups by Educational Testing Service to the following relevant aspects of history or society: the world-wide threat of communist aggression, civil rights and race relations, the new nations of Africa, Southeast Asia, the city and the megopolis, the history of the negro and other minority groups in the United States.



PHOTOGRAPHY — MORE THAN A HOBBY

## SOUTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The outstanding new project was the development of a data processing machine by two specialized groups, through the cooperation of the mathematics, science, and industrial arts departments. One group studied the mathematics of programing and the development of techniques necessary to prepare raw data for processing. The other group studied the development of a machine capable of accepting programed information and sorting or collecting it. The most important outcome of the project was the unified efforts of the faculty, student body, and industry to produce the processor.

All Bloomfield schools participate constantly in the preparation of new teachers. Usually, between 80 and 90 students do their student teaching here. A committee of the faculty at South Junior has completed a guide for practice teachers and their cooperating teachers. They have also developed an orientation program for those involved.

Changes in social studies in the junior high schools are under consideration. Meetings of the department chairmen in the three secondary schools have been held. The chairman of the South Junior social studies department devoted his sabbatical leave to studying backgrounds for change.



THE MATH-SCIENCE COMPUTER PROJECT





I.T.V. STUDENTS LEARN SEWING

## NORTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

At the completion of its first ten years, this school has been experiencing considerable growth, and may exceed a thousand pupils next September. Crowding and larger classes will be the result.

The Social Studies Department here, as at South Junior, has creatively sought materials to be used in teaching the contributions of minority groups to the growth of our country. Staff members have attended meetings sponsored by nearby colleges or the New Jersey State Department of Education.

The Introduction to Vocations Program, completing its second programs in the state.

year, is due for review and probable change. The programs at North and South Junior High Schools are among the fifty pilot

The Student Council has been exceptionally active. Most notable was the completion of the raising of \$1,000. which was donated to the Peace Corps for use in assistance in building a school overseas.

The outdoor facilities at North Junior High School, the only adequate in town, provide the school with varied opportunities in physical education and sports. Boys' soccer was a regular varsity

sport this last fall. The after-school girls' athletic programs provide for trips to other schools in competition and for playdays. The archery group won the New Jersey Junior High School Girls' Archery Tournament for the seventh year in a row.

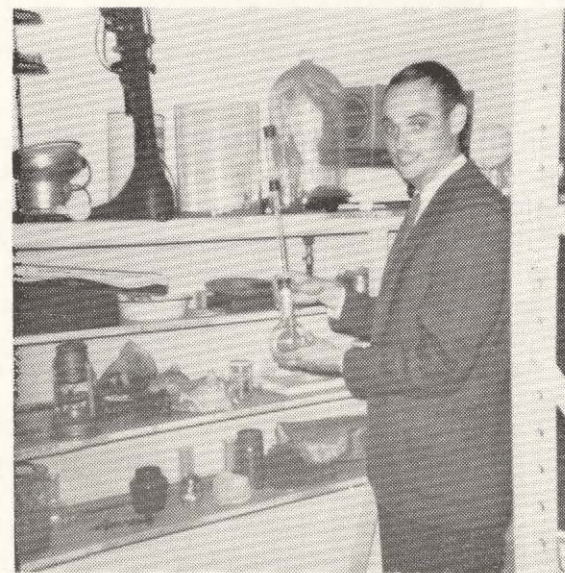
## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

There were numerous pilot programs in mathematics this year, as fifty teachers field tested three different newer texts. As an example, in Berkeley School three first grade teachers and three second grade teachers were paired off and used three different math series. All teachers in pilot programs throughout the system participated in the final choice for next year.

In Berkeley the linguistic approach to language arts will be tried in a fourth and a sixth grade.

The rapid growth at Berkeley has resulted in the construction of new classrooms in semi-basement areas, which have proved quite satisfactory. The enrollment, which was 450 in 1961, will be over 575 this September.

In order to test the benefits of additional library service, a second librarian was added to the elementary school staff. She worked part time in Brookdale and Watsessing Schools during the second half of the year. Teachers and pupils welcomed the addi-



SCIENCE HELPER MR. HOLT



tional service which enabled a class or individuals to use the library other than one period per week.

Teaching tools typical of those in use in our elementary schools, are mentioned by the principal of Brookdale School: the Tachistoscope, Controlled Reader, S.R.A. Reading Lab, overhead projectors, listening centers with tape recorders, and Threshold to Music charts. We hope in the next several years to add video-tape recorders, as our three secondary schools will each have one next year.

Brookside Home & School Association, in tune with the times, presented a successful variety show, "Laugh Out". All teachers and the principal participated. All over town, it is interesting to observe how talented staff members are participating in parent, student, or teacher association projects.

Carteret School reports an increased emphasis on reading and language arts, including I.T.A. The average number of library books per child taken from the school library was 27.5.

Reading readiness program in the kindergarten is described as follows: "the use of special equipment and filmstrips was geared toward recognition of picture nouns with their minute or gross differences; reasoning; the quickening of word picture association; the expansion of auditory and visual discrimination; beginning and ending sound similarities; left to right eye span; position, numerical association and verbalization of ideas."

At Demarest the children became interested in the Biafra situation through their study of current events. A cake sale held by one class at the Open House meeting of the Home & School Association netted \$50.00, which was sent to the U.N. Biafra relief for children. One first grade class corresponded with a first grade class of American Indians in Arizona. Another built models of our town, past and present, with clay and sticks. One kindergarten built a space station and a space capsule the children could actually enter. Quite some contemporary reference here!

The pupils at Fairview in the primary grades prepared a 20 page booklet entitled "Vacation Fund", packed with suggestions of what to do in the summer recess. This school has been trying out a new program, "Phonetic Keys to Reading", in several primary grades. As another contemporary note, some sixth grade pupils corresponded with a soldier from Bloomfield stationed in Germany.



A LISTENING CENTER

Forest Glen School staged an art show, featuring not only the work of students, but that of many talented adults in the development. This school also houses two classes for neurologically impaired children, gathered from different Bloomfield schools, as well as some neurologically impaired children who are placed in regular classes, but receive supplemental instruction part of the day.

In Franklin School pupils in the sixth grade are scheduled for mathematics by lateral exchange; that is, one teacher teaches the high group, another the middle group, and another the lowest group. A similar program is operated in reading for the fifth and sixth grades. Next year a third grade class and a fifth grade class will try out the linguistic approach to language arts.

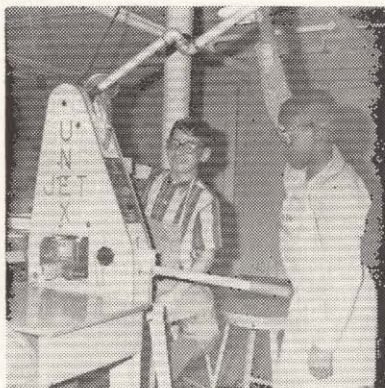
Oak View enrollment has also been increasing. This year a new classroom was located in what was formerly the bicycle room. The results of the I.T.A. reading program, about to enter its fourth year, continue to confirm its effectiveness.

This school also tried out the use of the library consultant as a resource person during the regular day, with more unscheduled use of the library. It proved to be successful.



Watsessing has successfully used the lateral exchange programs described previously. One interesting program in Brotherhood Week was the display of dolls of all races collected from all parts of the world. In this school and several others, violin lessons were offered in the fourth grade for the first time to selected pupils.

George Morris School has some retarded pupils whose limitations will not permit them to move on to our junior and senior high school classes. The school has developed a simulated work program which conditions pupils to the requirements of employers. The shop used injection molding in conjunction with a production line to teach the necessary work skills. This experience is especially valuable to pupils moving directly from George Morris School to the Occupational Center of Essex County, under the auspices of the New Jersey Rehabilitation Commission.



INDUSTRIAL SIMULATION  
AT GEORGE MORRIS

## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Town-Wide Health and Physical Education Committee completed its work in developing a curriculum, "Human Growth and Development". A town-wide workshop for all health teachers was assisted by Dr. Rosemary Cass in exploring the problems and procedures in this area. Secondary health teachers were given in-service training, including use of films, "Boy to Man" and "Girl to Woman".

Meetings were held with parents at the three secondary schools for the purpose of explaining the curriculum and obtaining parental reaction, which was positive at all meetings. The program became operative last spring.

Several faculty meetings were held at the senior high school on the topic of drug addiction. The head of the Juvenile Bureau discussed the immediate and long range effects on the users, and steps a classroom teacher could take if he or she suspected student abuse. Similar meetings will be held at the junior high schools this fall.

More than 100 elementary school students were awarded certificates for achievement in the National Physical Fitness Testing program. To be eligible, students had to score 50 per cent or better in each test.

School pedestrian accidents were again at a very low number, only nine being reported in Bloomfield. Children in elementary schools are not allowed to ride bicycles to school.

In cooperation with Mr. Harold Brotherhood and the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce, a program concerning shop-lifting was held in the senior high school. The Social Studies department cooperated in this project, and thousands of Shop-Lifting pamphlets were distributed.

The Coordinator of Health, Physical Education and Safety, together with board members and other staff members, will be working with the Recreation Department in the development of youth canteens, and greater coordination of school and recreational use of playground areas.

## CHILD GUIDANCE AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

There has, in recent years, been a significant increase in the number of emotionally disturbed children, including those of high school age. We had 42 evaluations by our consulting psychiatrist, plus private evaluations. The number of cases of school phobia is greater. Home and social conditions are largely responsible, and the problem seems nationwide. Teen-age runaways and teen-age fatal accidents are other symptoms.

Bloomfield's program in special education is most extensive. In addition to psychological, social work, and remedial services, we have programs for the mentally retarded, neurologically impaired, and hard of hearing. We sent over sixty children with other handicaps out of the district to private or public facilities. The cost for all special services, including special transportation, exceeded \$400,000, half of which is reimbursable by the state.

Our Work Study Program for Educables at the senior high school continues to maintain a job training and placement rate beyond usual expectations. The teacher-counselor has been able to place all but two students.



Great improvements have been made in the staffing and physical accommodations for neurologically impaired pupils, located at Forest Glen.

We continue to have the only fully implemented program for hard of hearing children in suburban Essex, despite a pressing need. The new Millburn School for the Deaf proved of great assistance to us. Both Dr. Willis and Dr. Stover serve on the new Commission for the Hearing Handicapped. Dr. Willis is also Chairman of the Advisory Commission of the Handicapped for the New Jersey State Department of Education.

Psychologists, social workers, and guidance counselors participated in a 32 session workshop on group dynamics; made possible through federal funds and the resources of the Psychological Services Corporation. This was training for future work with pupil groups in multiple-counseling situations.

The Child Guidance Department staff developed a Big Brother-Big Sister project. The Municipal Youth Guidance and the League for Family Service cooperated, and funds were obtained from the Office of Economic Opportunity.

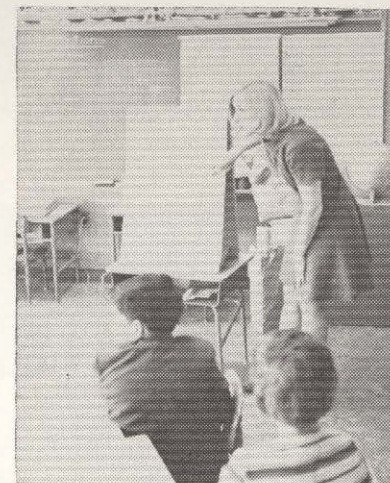
The school social workers report increasing attendance problems at the junior and senior high schools. At present our staffing is not adequate to cope with this development.

The local Juvenile Conference Committee has processed a record number of referrals, including cases where the charges were of a very serious nature. School authorities have continued to work very closely with law enforcement agencies and the courts. Locally we are convinced that such cooperative procedures are far more effective than institutions or agencies outside the community.

## CURRICULUM

We foresee the need for more inservice training and direction in audio visual aids. These have become so numerous and can be so effective that we need to learn how to use them better. Our experimentation with video-tape recording is only in its first stages, for example. The use of transparencies in teaching geography is another cogent example.

System-wide there is an increasing interest in utilizing the school libraries. We are still in pilot programs in expanding library services in the elementary schools. The expansion of the Bloomfield Public Library into an area library has provided still more referral services for school libraries, particularly at the secondary level. Numerous staff meetings have been held at various schools on greater utilization of all library facilities.



TEACHING THE READING  
OF MUSIC

Fifty-five teachers in grades 1-4 aided in the selection of new text books for mathematics by trying out different series. Similar pilot tryouts will be carried on in upper grade arithmetic, social studies and linguistics next year.

The I.T.A. program in reading will enter the fourth school next year. Results over the past three years indicate that this program is so successful as to warrant much wider adoption. The apparent by-products are improvement in writing and spelling, as well as greater over-all motivation of younger boys.

Plans underway for the next school year's inservice program include study of the contributions of minority groups, linguistics, and better utilization of Audio Visual materials.

## STAFF RELATIONS

This school year marked the beginning of a new era in public employer-employee relations. Chapter 303 of the Laws of 1968 provides that the two must make agreements on conditions of employment, including procedures for grievances and negotiations.

The Bloomfield Board of Education recognized and negotiated with five units: (1) Teachers, (2) Administrators, excluding central office staff, (3) Custodians and maintenance personnel, (4) Secretaries, (5) Cafeteria workers. While the process was long and at times tense, relationships remained respectful and cordial. The success of these negotiations was perhaps due in part to the fact that past boards for many years have met with such groups to review salary requests, policies, and grievances.



I believe that, for the most part, our employees are dedicated people, who like to work in our school system, feel that they are making a real contribution to society, and appreciate the efforts that the town is making to attract and hold excellent school personnel.



## IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SCHOOL PLANT (1968-1969)

### Senior High School

1. Fourteen projections screens were installed in classrooms.
2. A program of refinishing slate chalkboards was begun. This program will take 5 years to complete.
3. A film projector in the drive-trainer was replaced to upgrade this system.
4. Steel lockers in the field house at Foley Field were replaced in the visitors room.
5. The arts and crafts room was completely modernized.
6. New band uniforms were purchased.

### North Junior High School

1. Modification of the stairtower on the south end of "B" building was begun. This modification will reduce vandalism in this area.

### South Junior High School

1. Repairs to concrete sidewalk were completed.
2. A typewriting classroom was completely refurbished and new typewriters were provided.
3. One hundred eighty cafeteria chairs were replaced. This completes the refurbishing of the student cafeteria.

### Berkeley School

1. A new modern classroom was built on the ground floor.
2. Vinyl asbestos tile floors were installed in 4 classrooms.
3. Pupil furniture replacement was continued.

### Brookdale School

1. Interior of this building was completely painted.

### Brookside School

1. New tile floors were installed in both the first and second floor corridors.

### Carteret School

1. Additional duplex outlets were installed in all classrooms.

### Demarest School

1. Cork display boards were installed in several classrooms.
2. Additional book shelving was constructed in several classrooms.
3. The Pilch Street lobby entrance to the multi-purpose room was modified to reduce glass breakage in this area.

### Fairview School

1. Pupil furniture replacement was continued.
2. A new lawn was built for the multi-purpose room.

### Forest Glen School

1. A new retaining wall and chain link fence were built along the east boundary of this property.
2. Additional pupil furniture was supplied.

### Franklin School

1. The front of the building was completely landscaped.
2. New locksets were installed in all interior doors.

### Oak View School

1. A new classroom was built.

### Watsessing School

1. Two classroom floors were resurfaced.

Automatic fire detection systems and improved fire alarm systems were installed throughout all the public school buildings in Bloomfield.

Approximately 2,048 work orders and telephone requests were completed.





### BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION 1968-1969

Seated left to right: Mr. Vincent J. Biunno, Mrs. Frank M. Galioto; Mr. Harold Brotherhood, President; Mr. Edward C. Rasp, Jr., Vice President; Mr. Bernard Spitz.

Standing left to right: Dr. Frank B. Stover, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. George L. Sutton, Assistant Secretary; Mr. Robert E. Morris, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Board Secretary; Dr. Fredric M. Lavenburg, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction.